

MINUTES
STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD
November 16, 2001

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Neil Bernstein
Robin Fortney
Kathy Gourley
Gary Phillips, Chairperson
Timothy Sproul

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Jeff Vonk
Laura Jackson

ADVISORS PRESENT

Diane Ford-Shivvers
Robert McKay

STAFF PRESENT

John Pearson
Daryl Howell
Lyle Asell

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gary Phillips called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M., November 16, 2001.

APPROVE AGENDA

Add: Update on Rock Island Preserve Neil Bernstein

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| <p><i>Motion was made by Neil Bernstein to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.</i></p> |
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APPROVE MINUTES

Corrections August Minutes page 6, sixth paragraph, changing "doing an Alexander paper" to "reviewing a Forman and Clark Reference."

Page 6, paragraph 2, change "he as an advisory board" to "we as an advisory board."

Motion was made by Robin Fortney to approve the August minutes as amended. Seconded by Neal Bernstein. Motion carried unanimously.

Correction for October Meeting:

Under staff present change Darrell Hanson to Daryl Howell.

Second page third paragraph, change "the believe" to "that he believes"

Neal Bernstein said reference should be made to who David Elderkin is.

Motion was made by Kathy Gourley to approve the October minutes as amended. Seconded by Robin Fortney. Motion carried unanimously.

FORT ATKINSON FIELD SCHOOL UPDATE

Kathy Gourley said due to budget cuts and added duties she not be able to be involved in planning the field school this year. She said although everyone felt that last year's field school was very successful and they would like to hold it again in 2002, none of the planners felt they would have adequate time to help coordinate it.

ROCK ISLAND PRESERVE UPDATE

Neal Bernstein said that he had heard that Iowa Department of Transportation is proposing to bump the road out anywhere from 1 to 300 feet northeast of where it is currently planned thus bringing it closer to the residences. They plan to present their proposal to the County Conservation Board on Tuesday, November 20, 2001. Construction has been set back a year due to the lack of funding.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2002

The States Preserve Advisory Board decided on the following schedule for 2002

January 18, 2002 Wildlife Research Station, Ledges State Park, Boone

April 2 and 3, 2002 Glenwood

July 19 and 20, 2002 Wapsipinicon State Park, Anamosa

October 24 and 25, 2002 Cedar Rapids

LAND USE CHANGES AND PRESERVES

The Board discussed possible immediate threats to preserves. Tim Sproul suggested sending a querie out to the County Conservation Boards and use that feedback to develop a list of high priority preserves.

LANDFORMS AND ECOSYSTEMS PROGRAM

John Pearson said the DNR received a budget item in the Environment First account called the Landforms and Ecosystems program where there is an award of \$125,000 to spend on natural areas inventory and project to promote public awareness of natural landscapes. He said some of the most frequent controversies involving natural areas in Iowa have been logging, road building, and private lands. With those issues in mind the Department identified the Paint Creek Unit of the Yellow River State Forest for a floristic inventory. They looked at the Department of Transportation's five and ten year plan to narrow down

projects that would help both departments and decided on doing plant and animal surveys in several public areas along the Wapsipinicon River in Clinton and Scott Counties. In Northeast Iowa they chose three natural areas on private land in Fayette and Clayton County, they are Becky's Fen, Gray-Hart Memorial Preserve, and the Kleve Schneider Fin. He said once these are done they would like to do a second round of natural areas inventory targeting the Loess Hills. Under the environmental education the Department is looking into two ideas, one is enhanced websites on prairies and preserves and threatened and endangered species. The other idea is possibly doing a film in cooperation with Iowa Public Television.

Lengthy discussion followed.

Motion was made by Robin Fortney develop a marketing plan for preserves. Seconded by Kathy Gourley. Motion carried unanimously.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Bob McKay said due a change in the funding source for his salary he will no longer be able to attend the State Preserves Advisory Board meetings. He has been told that Geological Survey will only be providing assistance to the Preserves Advisory Board on a limited basis.

Kathy Gourley said part of Yellow River Forest was originally the Yellow River Mission which was associated with the Winnebago prior to moving on to Fort Atkinson. The Forestry Division recently completed an archeological survey of the area because the site needs to be cleaned up. In its current condition the Yellow River Mission is not preserve quality but there are portions where the structures are intact. Therefore there will be an archeologist on sight during the cleanup process.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Neal Bernstein to adjourn. Seconded by Robin Fortney. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the State Preserves Advisory Board, Chairperson Phillips adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m., Friday, November 16, 2001.

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